

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Reissue Application of USP 5,954,839)

16. A method of protecting from an error occurring during the decoding of a plurality of packets of given information, comprising:

- (a) decoding a first packet which is one of the plurality of packets; and
- (b) combining the first packet with two or more other packets of the plurality of packets when an error occurs in the decoding in (a).

17. An error protection apparatus for protecting errors from occurring during decoding of a plurality of packets of given information, comprising:

a buffer coupled to a transmission channel and storing packets received from a transmitter; and

a decoder unit which decodes one or more packets stored in the buffer, wherein in response to generating an error upon decoding a combination of the packets, said decoder unit decodes a second combination of packets stored in said buffer.